

Remarks/Arguments

This Amendment has been prepared in response to the first Office Action of October 4, 2006 received in conjunction with the above-identified patent application. In that Action, the Examiner, citing as a prior art reference U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0184494 of Awadalla, rejected all claims in the application under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and (b) as being anticipated by this reference.

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Examiner's Action and the cited and applied prior art reference, along with the disclosure and claim contents of the present patent application, and by the instant Amendment, proposes certain changes in the claims which are believed now to place all claims remaining in this application, on the basis of entry of this Amendment, in conditions for allowance.

The cited and applied Awadalla reference describes print job encryption which takes place in a fashion whereby the entirety of what might be considered to be the core print job data is encrypted under all circumstances, with print job header information not being encrypted at all. For example, two different approaches are illustrated in the specific reference drawing figures to which the Examiner directs attention in his rejection of applicant's claims, these two drawing figures being Figs. 1 and 5.

Recognizing that the encryption thrust and direction of the Awadalla reference is that *all print job data*, save print job header data, is to be encrypted, Fig. 1 illustrates an approach wherein *full print job data file content is first fully encrypted*, see block 10 in Fig. 1, *after which a non-encrypted header is attached to the otherwise fully encrypted job file*, see block 12 in

Fig. 1. Thus the practice illustrated in Fig. 1 of the Awadalla reference fully supports the Awadalla approach which is that all print job, data save header data, is to be encrypted without any further differentiation taking place regarding what becomes encrypted and what remains unencrypted.

Fig. 5 in the drawings illustrates another proposed Awadalla approach wherein, prior to any encryption taking place respecting print job data, a print job header is attached to that file data, see block 72 in Fig. 5, and after this attachment takes place, a *portion* of that attachment-assembled information, *this portion being the entirety of the print job data save the print job header data, is fully encrypted*. The encryption which takes place, as represented by block 74 in Awadalla's Fig. 5, *is not encryption which produces, or is based upon, any further segregation that differentiates encrypted data from non-encrypted data*. More specifically, nothing takes place within the operation of block 74 in Fig. 5 which involves segregating, within the basic print job data, non-content data fields from content data fields, with encryption occurring only for the data in the segmented, non-content fields.

In applying the Awadalla reference to those originally presented claims in this patent application which point out that applicant's encryption takes place *only with respect to segmented content field portions within print job data, per se*, the Examiner has misread the fact that the Awadalla reference performs no such differentiation whatsoever. Very specifically, block 74 in Fig. 5 does not teach or suggest any such segregation.

By the present Amendment, claims 1 and 4 have been currently amended, and claims 2, 3 and 5 have been cancelled without prejudice. Current amendments in claims 1 and 4

focus attention on this just-discussed, important distinguishing feature of applicant's invention -- namely, that it is only the clearly identified and segmented content-field portions of print job data which are encrypted.

Accordingly, with entry of the present Amendment, all claims now presented in this application are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied Awadalla reference. Therefore, favorable reconsideration of this application, and allowance of all claims remaining therein, are respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the amendment or remarks, the Examiner is invited to contact Attorney-of-Record Jon M. Dickinson, Esq., at 503-504-2271.

Request for Extension of Time in Which to Respond

Applicant hereby requests an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. A PTOForm 2038 Credit Card authorization in the amount \$120.00 of is enclosed to pay the requisite extension fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any over-payment to Account No. 22-0258.

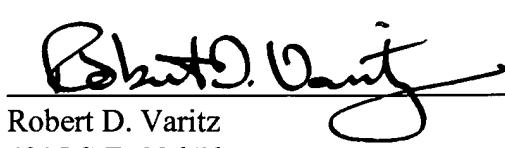
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Respectfully Submitted,

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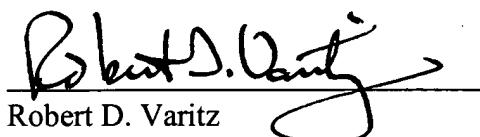


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I hereby certify that the attached Response to Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH TO RESPOND UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and a PTO Form 2038 credit card authorization in the amount of \$120.00 are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450


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